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NRO REVIEW COMPLETED

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17 August 1962

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT : Status of CORONA Fogging Problem

1. As of today the Phase III LMSC HATS test has failed to eliminate fogging on test film. This is based on a flash verbal report only inasmuch as the test film is being processed as this is written.

2. Phase III was a further attempt, by a piggyback design of the "gold dollar" pressure vent, to reduce payload area internal pressure below the levels in which heavy fogging occurs. The validity of these tests is suspect because of test chamber limitations. The real life situation could be more favorable but this is not readily proved experimentally except by risk of an actual mission failure. Ed Purcell is being queried on the significance of the test.

3. Itek have uncovered, as of last night, a change in electrical conductivity of considerable magnitude in the metering rollers. This change took place in the progression from "C" to M configuration. Two of these old rollers have been discovered and are on the way to LMSC. These will be installed in one camera this weekend. Two candidate anti-static compounds which are sprayable onto rollers are available and the better will be used in treating rollers of the second camera in a full M configuration.

4. A HATS test will be run at once to determine the ability of these fixes to suppress the fogging even in the critical level of internal pressure. This rather than the pressure reduction is to be preferred since it is a cure for the fundamental problem.

5. EK are running concurrent tests to determine the photo-sensitivity of the anti-static spray compounds.

6. Itek expect initial production deliveries of an anti-static roller by Monday, 20 August, in numbers sufficient to meet a launch date in two weeks including all preparatory tests.

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7. We now have two relatively short term possible cures for the fundamental problem, each independent of the pressure cure. Itek are also going through a detailed system review to eliminate all potential gradients in the assembly.

SIGNED

EUGENE P. KIEFER
Technical Analysis and Evaluation Staff
(Special Activities)

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Eugene P. Kiefer:TAES/OSA: [Redacted] (17 Aug 62)

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